

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 03667 101452Z
ACTION FAA-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 DOTE-00 /030 W
-----110151Z 019626 /62

R 101412Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4425
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 3667

PASS: FAA BRUSSELS AND FAA ROME

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR II BE ET
SUBJ: FAA WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS

REF: A. STATE 132603, B. ADDIS ABABA 3013, C. ROME 7732

1. EMBASSY NOTES WITH CONCERN DEPT AND FAA VIEW
THAT FAA PERSONNEL SHOULD NOT ADMINISTER WRITTEN
EXAMS TO APPROX 250 ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES
SPONSORED APPLICANTS. WHILE EMB CERTAINLY RECOGNIZES
CURRENT STRAIN IN RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND ETHIOPIA,
WE ALSO ASSUME THAT WE INTEND TO CONTINUE TO CONDUCT
SUCH REGULAR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AS WE CAN, PAR-
TICULARLY WHEN THESE ARE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL,
AND WE SUGGEST THAT THIS IS CASE IN POINT.
THUS, ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES HAS HAD LONG STANDING
CLOSE RELATIONS WITH BOTH US AVIATION INDUSTRY
AND FAA. NOT TO ADMINISTER THESE EXAMS WOULD
BE SEEN FOR WHAT IT IS, AN ACT OF POLITICAL
RETALIATION AND SERVE ONLY TO PENALIZE AN ETHIOPIAN
ENTITY WHICH IS COMMERCIAL AND TECHNICAL IN NATURE IN
ADDITION TO CREATING ONE MORE IRRITATION WHICH IN OUR
VIEW, GIVENCIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS CASE, WOULD
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SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE THAT WE CAN SEE. ETHIOPIAN
AIRLINES HAS BEEN AND IS LIKELY TO BE IN THE FUTURE
A GOOD CUSTOMER FOR US AVIATION PRODUCTS ASSUMING
CONTINUED GOOD RELATIONS WITH THEM. THE EMBASSY HAS
ALWAYS TAKEN THE VIEW THAT FAA SERVICE HAS CONTRI-
BUTED SUBSTANTIALLY TO ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES PREFERENCE
FOR AMERICAN AIRCRAFT. IN LIGHT OF FOREGOING,

EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT DECISION NOT TO SEND FAA
PERSONNEL TO ADDIS TO ADMINISTER EXAMS BE RECONSIDERED.

2. AS NOTED IN REF B, THERE ARE CURRENTLY NO
SECURITY REASONS FOR CANCELLING VISIT.
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Message Attributes

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